

## NOTES HERE AND THERE

Conducted by Gordon Wilson

Dr. William T. Hornaday, director emeritus of the New York Zoological Park, has been presented with a gold medal by the New York Zoological Society for his thirty years of "loyal, able and efficient service."—*Science*.

The editor of this column is now conducting a column in the daily *Times-Journal* of Bowling Green, Kentucky, entitled "Birds and the Out-of-doors."

Mr. William I. Lyon, Waukegan, Illinois, the famous bird-bander, has evolved numerous types of traps for banders and now has out an attractive circular advertising his wares. As I have seen several of his traps, I can vouch for the oddity of many of them, designed to catch odd birds, but his own marvelous records as a bander show how excellent the traps must be.

A recent map issued by The Federation of the Bird Clubs of New England shows the location of ten wild life reservations secured by this organization in the single state of Massachusetts in the year 1925. All except one are on the coast, one being at famous Plymouth Beach; the inland reservation is at Watatic Mountain.

Mr. C. K. Lloyd, Oxford, Ohio, sends the following note to this column: "In the June, 1925, issue of THE WILSON BULLETIN Mr. Bailey has an article on the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Florida and states that the records of this bird in Florida are few. On April 4, 1926, my brother and I observed a pair of this species on Anne Maria Island, which borders the Gulf of Mexico. They were on a telephone wire close to a main-traveled road; and they appeared to be very tame. The birds were not collected, but the identification was positive."

We learn from the U. S. Department of Agriculture Press Service that Frank Bond, the well-known bird artist, has been transferred from the Land Office of the Department of the Interior to the Biological Survey. In the new capacity Mr. Bond will be assigned to special work in connection with Upper Mississippi River Wild Life and Fish Refuge.

Henry Hill Collins, 3rd, of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, has devised some field cards of all birds found in the South, in the Middle West, and in New England, arranged for field-trip checking. All birds are arranged in the A. O. U. order and have annotations as to range, abundance, and seasonal distribution. They make good records for field study.

One of the undertakings of The Federation of the Bird Clubs of New England is to save the Heath Hen. There is a special reservation on Martha's Vineyard Island, Massachusetts. Last year the protection increased the numbers of this species.

The Michigan Audubon Society issues a Quarterly News Letter in mimeographed form containing news and notes of interest to the members. One very excellent feature in this little publication is a cartoon or other drawing each issue bearing on bird study.

Our energetic Secretary, like most of us, has more than one iron in the fire. His latest iron, straining the metaphor, is rattlesnakes. During the summer he spent two weeks in western Kansas and Colorado collecting these reptiles. As we feared, he was bitten by one of them after arrival home, and has been laid up for several weeks, but has now fully recovered.

Our former Secretary, Professor Gordon Wilson, has assumed another editorial role—now in the capacity of chief editor of the *Kentucky Folk-Lore and Poetry Magazine*, the first number of which was issued in April, 1926.

Our President, Mr. Ganier, has been a very busy man during the present year. In his office as president of the Tennessee Academy of Science he has taken an important part in the preparation of a "Brief and Argument of the Tennessee Academy of Science as Amicus Curiae" in the John Thomas Scopes case now before the Supreme Court of Tennessee. He is also a member of the City Planning and Zoning Commission of his own city of Nashville. And then, with Dr. Vaughn and Dr. Mayfield, he is developing as a summer home and bird sanctuary a tract of about twenty-five acres on the Stone River Bluffs some twelve miles south of Nashville.

We note that our fellow-member, Dr. George R. Mayfield, of Nashville, has become the editor of the *Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science*. This *Journal* follows, after a lapse of nine years, the *Transactions*, and apparently is the result of the infusion of new blood. The *Journal* is a quarterly publication, of which the third number has recently been issued.

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## PROCEEDINGS

### Proceedings of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union

The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union was held at Omaha, Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16, 1926. Twenty-six members were present. The first session was called to order at 2:45 p. m. in the auditorium of the Castle Hotel by the President, Mrs. C. W. McCaskill. President McCaskill and Vice-President Horsky reported for their offices, and M. H. Swenk reported for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. The financial report showed cash on hand, May 1, 1925, to the amount of \$147.94, to which had been added during the year \$134 from dues, \$21.25 from interest on investment, and \$4.88 from sale of publications. The expense of the office of Secretary-Treasurer for postage and stationery, including the cost of the Letters of Information, amounted to \$38.77, leaving a balance on hand, May 1, 1926, of \$269.30. The Secretary-Treasurer also reported that the membership was six honorary members and sixty-five active members, as of May 1, 1926; and seventy-two active members for the current year.

The President then called for the report of the special committee appointed to investigate and report concerning the advisability of having a state bird for Nebraska. This committee consisted of Mrs. Lily R. Button, Chairman, Mr. L. O. Horsky, and Mrs. H. F. Hole. The committee was not prepared to recommend that the N. O. U. should inaugurate and actively further a movement to have the Nebraska Legislature designate a state bird, but it unanimously voted the Western Meadowlark as its choice should at any time in the future a state bird be designated. This report of the committee was approved and adopted.

The Union reaffirmed its previous endorsement of the project of publishing the "Birds of Nebraska", and authorized the Secretary-Treasurer "to prepare the manuscript of the first part and to arrange for the illustrating and printing of the same in such manner as in his judgment was the best, compatible with the resources of the Society." It was also decided that this work, as issued in